

THE PUMP & POUND

The Newsletter of Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Issue 3

December 2011/January 2012

Welcome to the third issue of The Pump & Pound and Season's Greetings to everyone. 2011 has been a busy year for the Parish Council and also a memorable one! In February work started on the long awaited A356 road improvement scheme, which is part of the Rural Roads pilot. In May a new Parish Council was elected and some existing councillors were re-elected. Work on the road finished in June and the end result has been met with mixed reactions. We are expecting the results of the safety audit imminently and these will be made public once received. At the start of the autumn term we had the School Transport fiasco and campaigned on behalf of local parents. We also dealt with many other local issues. We are now looking forward to 2012 and continuing to work on your behalf to the benefit of our local communities.

We the parish councillors wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mike Johnson - Chairman

Four Stars for the Coach and Horses Inn

There has been a hostelry on the site of the Coach and Horses since 1744 although recent investigation has shown that there has been a building here since 1673 (which is consistent with the date stone above the door on the A356). During its life there have been many changes. The latest alterations are the installation of a new kitchen and the conversion of the old kitchen into a restaurant. Much of the hard work was carried out by the owner, John Harris, and the landlord, Gary Lancaster, but using local tradesmen when appropriate, with very little disruption to the day to day running of the inn. At the same time, Gary took the opportunity to introduce a new menu and to install a Sunday carvery. The new dining facilities were formally opened on September 30th 2011. On 3rd October, West Dorset Environmental Health Officers inspected the inn and awarded the Coach and Horses a 4 star rating. In fact, it is impossible for Gary to achieve a higher rating without employing full time kitchen staff so congratulations are definitely in order! But there is more to the dining room than meets the eye. At the drop of a trapdoor, it converts into a skittles alley which is just as well with eight teams based here. It also provides a venue for village hall activities when the hall is unavailable, as well as regularly hosting a number of local clubs. In short the pub is the hub of the village in all respects!



New Kitchen for South Perrott Village Hall

As part of the on-going upgrade to South Perrott Village Hall, a new kitchen is being installed from 13th December. Therefore, the hall will not be available from Tuesday 13th December until Monday 9th January. I apologize for any inconvenience and hope that the improvements will be appreciated.

Dave McSkelly – Chairman, South Perrott Village Hall Management Committee

Chedington and South Perrott Gardening Club

The subject of the talk on 12 October 2011 was "The History of the Cottage Garden", not the most riveting subject one would have thought. BUT Wow! How deceptive was that. The proverbial pin dropping would have been heard as everyone sat enthralled by Neil's knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject. His audience gained an interesting insight into our own varied history and also that of the garden. The conclusion was that there is no such thing as "a cottage garden" as it can only be created by the imagination of the individual. Therefore each one is different, because it is a garden that you create, love and enjoy, which after all is the objective of all gardeners everywhere.

The AGM combined with dinner was held on 9th November 2011. Everybody enjoyed themselves and business was conducted in the most amicable way. No boring bits and nobody fell asleep! Sue Lucas, Peter Coles and Joy Coles were all re-elected and given a vote of thanks for all the work that they do. It looks like another interesting full year has been planned for us.



Refuse Collection for Christmas and New Year

The only change is that our collection will be on Friday 30th December instead of Thursday 29th. Normal collections resume on 2nd January 2012.

Chedington Street Fair

Following the appeal in the last issue of this newsletter for a coordinator for the Chedington Street Fair, we are pleased to report that Dave George has volunteered to take on this vital role. He will be working with Michael Stevenette to ensure that the event will take place as usual although a week earlier than normal on Saturday 21st July 2012.

Chedington/South Perrott Children's Christmas Party

This year's children's party is on Saturday 24th December in Chedington Village Hall at 2pm (for 2.15pm start). Santa will visit from 3pm followed by a party tea. All children (up to the end of Primary school) from the villages are invited including any children visiting families in the villages. Santa will be shopping on Monday 12th so please let Teresa Charles (01935 891678) or Vicky Reed (01935 891654) know by Sunday 11th at the very latest if your child/children will attend.

And the fundraising goes on....

The Harvest Lunch at South Perrott on 9th October 2011 was well attended and the auction of the produce raised £107 for the Weldmar Hospice.

The autumn bazaar on 12th November was another success. The total raised was £346 which was 40% higher than last year. The proceeds go towards church funds.

Jubilee Celebrations

South Perrott Village Hall Committee plans to fund a party for the whole village, young and old alike, to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. This will take place on Sunday 3rd June 2012 and Peter Hinton has kindly allowed the use of the paddock (weather permitting). Vicky Reed circulated a questionnaire at the end of September but to date only a few replies have been received. We would like to hear from others so that we may gauge the level of support that can be expected and the type of activities to include. It will be appreciated if comments and ideas could be passed to Vicky (01935 891654), Dave McSkelly (01935 891891 or email davemcskelly@aol.com) or by returning the questionnaire (if you can still find it!). All children living in the village will receive a commemorative item even if they do not attend the party.

Parrett & Axe Parish Council

Below is a summary of some of the topics discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10th November 2011. A full set of the agreed minutes will be available on the Parish web site (www.parrettandaxe.org.uk) or from the clerk when accepted at the next meeting. In addition to the Parish Councillors, PCSO Alex Bishop was also in attendance.

❖ A356 Road Scheme

Road narrow signs have now been erected in the village. The Safety Audit in South Perrott has been conducted, however the report has not yet been signed off or published. See update below.

❖ A3066

A request had been made to DCC Highways for additional road markings on the stretch of road between Mosterton and Misterton Cross to deter overtaking at the junction with Lecher Lane. DCC Highways advised that a solid white line would not be an appropriate road marking but they would consider a road sign indicating the approaching right turn and/or a SLOW marking. The Parish Council will pursue.

❖ School and Public Bus Service

- DCC advised that they were now having regular meetings with the contractor and that services should be returning to normal after the disruption at the start of the autumn term. Please report any incidents to the Parish Council or Rebecca Knox for referral to DCC.
- It has been reported that the school bus is causing traffic congestion at its pick-up/drop-off point on the main road at the end of Picket Lane. The Parish Council is writing to Damory Coaches to ask if the bus could pick up in Picket Lane by Manor Close.

❖ Street Lighting in South Perrott

New street lights are to be installed in Manor Close. DCC advised that shields will not be installed during installation of these lights. If any resident subsequently experiences light intrusion, shields will be considered.

❖ Hand Gritting Machines

As requested at the previous meeting two Hand Gritting Machines for grit spreading during icy weather will be purchased at a cost of approximately £100 each for use by the two villages.

❖ Introduction to Community Planning

At a recent WDDC meeting Parish Councils were advised to draw up a Community Plan to avoid the risk of having a plan imposed. It was agreed to defer action until July 2012 as new legislation may be introduced which could have implications for future planning.

❖ Planning

Six decisions have been notified by WDDC since the last Parish Council meeting. There has been one new application from Pickett Farm, South Perrott to construct an above ground concrete panel animal slurry compound. This is an EU requirement. The Parish Council had no objection.

❖ South Perrott Village Hall

A request was considered from South Perrott Village Hall Committee for a contribution of 5% (£286.46) towards the cost of a new kitchen. This was agreed and would be paid from the 2011/12 Parish Precept.

❖ Budget and Precept for 2012-2013

Members discussed the proposed budget for 2012/13 and agreed not to increase the Precept, which will remain at £3,600.

❖ Police Report

- A series of sheep thefts have recently occurred in the area and residents are asked to alert the police if they see anything suspicious such as unknown vans parked by field gates.
- Residents are reminded that it is now the time of year when most oil thefts take place. The "Stop That Oil" scheme appears to be working as there has been a reduction in the number of reported thefts

A356 Update from DCC Highways

Headlines from the recent Safety Audit – the full report will be available in the New Year and Andrew Bradley, DCC Highways Management Engineer, will be discussing this at the Parish Council meeting on 12th January 2012.

- Shared use of the footway in the environs of Lecher Lane - Issues: poor visibility between opposing traffic (particularly HGV's) causing conflict where the road narrows; the speed of traffic particularly the downhill approach; use of coloured surfacing across the road does not help to differentiate the shared space; the up stand (kerb) could be a hazard to cyclists/motorcyclists.
- Narrow stretch at Swing Gate Cottage - Issues; speed of traffic and insufficient road width causing conflict.

The Dorset Country Cars Scheme.

This scheme provides transport for anyone in the parish who needs it. The drivers are volunteers and will take a person anywhere they want to go, for example, on a shopping trip, to visit someone in hospital or doctor, dentist & other appointments. The maximum distance is a 50-mile round trip. There is a cost of 30p a mile to the passenger, and the drivers are reimbursed their petrol money from funds provided by DCC. Contact Joyce Osborne on 01935 891625 for more information.

Parish Councillors

Councillor	Address	Telephone No	e-mail Address
Michael Johnson (<i>Chairman</i>)	Chedington	01935 891347 or 07813210266	mikej.chedington@btinternet.com
Peter Simmons	Chedington	07971007551	peterjsimmonsuk@btinternet.com
Liz Fray	Chedington	01935 891941	lizfray@btinternet.com
Kate Organ (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	South Perrott	01935 891391	
Sue Coutanche	South Perrott	01935 891019	sue.coutanche@btinternet.com
Anita Legg	South Perrott	01935 891666	

Clerk to the Parish Council

Angela Gillingham	Bridge Farmhouse	01935 891931	clerk@parrettandaxe.org.uk
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County Councillor for Beaminster Electoral Division

Rebecca Knox	01308 863365 or 07831168173	r.knox@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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Next two Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Thursday 12th January 2012 19:30 Chedington Village Hall

Thursday 8th March 2012 19:30 South Perrott Village Hall

What's On in South Perrott and Chedington?

		Time	Event	Venue	Contact
December 2011					
Sunday	4 th	19:00	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Monday	5 th	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Wednesday	7 th	16:30	Tai Chi	SP Village Hall	Patrick – 07971 884071
Thursday	8 th	19:00	Carols & Readings	St Mary's Church, SP	
Friday	9 th	19:00	Village Christmas Meal with live music from Jakey Zee	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Sunday	11 th	19:00	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Wednesday	14 th	19:00	Gardening Club	Chedington Village Hall	Sue - 891240
Thursday	15 th	19:30	Village Christmas Party	Mohun House	Anne – 891224 or Wendy - 891890
Sunday	18 th	19:00	Music Quiz	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Friday	23 rd	19:30	Christmas Prize Draw	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Saturday	24 th	14:00	Children's Christmas Party	Chedington Village Hall	Vicky - 891654 or Teresa - 891678
Saturday	24 th	18:30	Christingle Service	St Mary's Church, SP	
Saturday	24 th	17:00	Live Music with "Stress"	Winyards Gap	Toby/Michele - 891244
Saturday	31 st	21:00	New Year's Eve Buffet and Disco	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
January 2012					
Sunday	1 st	19:00	Quiz	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Monday	2 nd	11:00	Coffee Club	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Sunday	8 th	19:00	Bingo	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Thursday	12 th	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Chedington Village Hall	
Sunday	15 th	19:00	Music Quiz	Coach & Horses	Gary/Gill - 891270
Thursday	26 th	18:30	Burns Night Supper	SP Village Hall	Michael - 891890

Regular Events – Winter 2011/12

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
Every Monday until 5 th Dec (resumes 9 th Jan)	19:30	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday	09:30	Stay & Play	Coach & Horses	Bridport Children's Centre - 01308 421714
Every Tuesday	10:00	Mosterton and District Over 50s Computer Club	Coach & Horses	Ella - 01308 868834 Barbara - 01308 867891 Martyn - 891931
Every Tuesday until 6 th Dec (resumes 10 th Jan)	14:00	Short Mat Bowls	SP Village Hall	Bob - 891404
Every Tuesday (not 27 th Dec)	18:30	Aerobics with Gemma	SP Village Hall except 13 th , 20 th Dec and 3 rd Jan in Coach and Horses.	Gemma – 07767 083780
Every Thursday until 8 th Dec (resumes 5 th Jan)	09:30	Yoga	SP Village Hall except 5 th Jan in Coach and Horses	Ann - 891224
Every Friday until 9 th Dec (resumes 13 th Jan)	10:00	Upholstery	SP Village Hall	Helen – 01460 62621

Other Contacts

Chedington Village Hall:

Chairman Joy Coles 01935 891232
Bookings Ivan Williams 01935 891059

Winyards Gap

Toby/Michele 01935 891244

St Mary's Church:

Church Warden Peter Coles 01935 891232
Treasurer Wendy Stevenette 01935 891890

South Perrott Village Hall:

Chairman Dave McSkelly 01935 891891
Secretary Michael Stevenette 01935 891890
Bookings Vicky Reed 01935 891654
Gary and Gill 01935 891270

Coach & Horses Millennium Green

Secretary Martyn Gillingham 01935 891931